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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

**DECLARATION OF THE STATE OF TLAXCALA AS AN AREA
FREE FROM THE TICK *BOOPHILUS* SPP.**

COMMUNICATION FROM MEXICO

The following communication, dated 6 February 2013, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Mexico.

1. Pursuant to Article 7 of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures and paragraph 3(b) of Annex B thereto, Mexico hereby advises WTO Members that the **Decision declaring the state of Tlaxcala to be an area free from the tick *Boophilus* spp.** was published in the Mexican Official Journal (*Diario Oficial de la Federación*) on 1 February 2013.

2. The notified Decision declares the state of Tlaxcala to be an area free from the tick *Boophilus* spp. following the introduction of sanitary measures to ensure the diagnosis, control, eradication and epidemiological surveillance, both active and passive, of this pest, and the movement control and inspection of cattle throughout the state, in accordance with the objectives and procedures in the Decision establishing the national campaign for the control of the tick *Boophilus* spp.

3. The Decision is being published in order to ensure that the state of Tlaxcala remains free from the tick *Boophilus* spp., and that the sanitary measures pertaining to diagnosis, prevention, control, epidemiological surveillance, movement control, transport, transit, marketing and cattle traceability, found in Articles 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 32, 33 and 39 of the Decision establishing the national campaign for the control of the tick *Boophilus* spp. and in the relevant regulations currently in force, are applied.

4. The recognition of this state as an area free from the above-mentioned pest provides certainty and ensures free transit and market access for both cattle and cattle products, which will have a positive impact on cattle production in the state of Tlaxcala.

5. The Decision is available in Spanish at <http://www.dof.gob.mx> and http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5286509&fecha=01/02/2013 or from the National Enquiry Point (normasomc@economia.gob.mx).

6. Lastly, Mexico wishes to state that this communication is being made for the purposes of transparency, without prejudice to the country's rights and obligations under the SPS Agreement.
